

Sowing Gospel Seeds

When we buy flowers to plant in our garden, we do not think about the process that went into producing those flowers: preparing the soil, sowing the seeds, watering, caring for them, and then preparing them to reach the store shelves.

The hard-working employees on the farms are part of that process. Many are temporary workers, coming from the interior of the country or from Latin America. For the latter, it is especially difficult—the climate, the language, and the culture impact their hearts.

God uses Hispanic church planters who come to them, faithfully preaching God's Word. One example is Pastor José Mazariego, an SBCV catalytic planter in Northern Virginia.

Pastor Mazariego was invited by Pastor Seth, owner of Battlefield Farms in Culpeper, VA, to share the Gospel with Hispanic workers. Although Mazariego's church is in the town of Dumfries (about an hour away), he saw an opportunity to preach God's Word on a weekly basis on this mission field. Since February 2021, Pastor Mazariego has been driving every Wednesday morning to preach the Gospel and spend time with the workers, most of whom are from Mexico and Guatemala.

Obedying God's call to reach the Hispanic community through church planting and fulfilling the mandate of our Lord Jesus Christ in Matthew 28:19-20, Pastor José Mazariego involved two church planter apprentices from his church (**Iglesia Bíblica Gracia Eterna**) and a new planter, Reynaldo Quintanilla, to join this mission.

Many ministry activities have taken place, including the week of Thanksgiving. At 5:00 AM one morning that week, Pastor Mazariego brought over 100 food boxes for the workers. The boxes contained milk, cereal, vegetables, and turkeys. Bibles were also given to the more than 110 people who attended the service. They worshiped God, preached the Word, and spent time together.

The reason Mazariego invited Reynaldo Quintanilla to join him in this ministry was so that Quintanilla could follow up and invite the new disciples to **Vida Church**, the new church plant Quintanilla pastors in Culpeper. **Open Door Baptist Church** in Culpeper is Vida Church's partner church, and Mazariego's church (Iglesia Bíblica Gracia Eterna) has also helped advise.


Whether these workers settle in the area or return to their places of origin at the end of the work season, they will carry the seed of the Gospel in their hearts.

We glorify God for Pastor José Mazariego and his church, for his obedience in starting this work, and for including local churches in the area.

"For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen." Romans 11:36 (HCSB) ■

RESOURCE:

For more information or to help, contact Pastor Mazariego at:

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